Previous references.

(29)

File No. 24 of 08

1908.

Serial Nos. 1 & 2

(Police)

Later references.

Ex 9-16-15.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 1 & 2

Part B. for August 08

SUBJECT.

Report on the result of the departmental enquiry in to the conduct of the City Police in connection with the Bangalore murders.

Table of Contents.

Sl. no 1. From the I.G. of Police, no. 602/56 dt/ 25.7.08
Submits a report on the result of the departmental enquiry into the conduct of the City Police in connection with the Bangalore murders and recommends that Inspector Siddaramappa and Chief Jailor Nagarkatti may be given promotions in recognition of their service

2. To The I.G. of Police; The I.G. of Prisons; and The Dy. Comr, Bangalore.
no. J 627-29 dt/24.8.08.
Notes with satisfaction the good work done by the City Police and directs that Siddaramappa be given such promotion as is thought fit.

G. R. S. 58

G.R.S. 11] 1908.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

(Police)

NOTES.

File. No. 24 9 08

FILE HEADING.

Report on the result of the departmental enquiry into the conduct of the City Police in connection with the Bangalore murders.

From

The I G. of Police in Mysore

No. 507/56 Dated 25.7.08 Received 27.7.08

Diary No. J259 | Enclos. 22 bills Spare Copies. .. | Serial No. 1

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

Submits a report on the result of the departmental enquiry into the conduct of the City Police in connection with the Bangalore murders & recommends that Inspector Siddaramappa & Chief Jailor Nagarkar may be given promotions in recognition of their services.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

It is stated that no charge of incompetency or blameworthy conduct can reasonably be imputed to them in this connection. It is apparent from the Police Gazette for March 08 & from his own

7/V

NOTES—First sheet.

GPB—30,000—20-3-06.

G. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

Police File No. 24 of 1908-9

Serial No.

statement before the Sessions Court, C. & M. Station, that Sivaramappa has already been ~~x~~ given promotion in recognition of his services in connection with the murders referred to. Subo. for orders. The question of increasing the ~~pay of~~ salary of Mr. R.S. Vajawker is under consideration. ~~If funds~~

31-7-08.

SN 31/7/08 (Under Secretary) 3 8 08

The present report may be kindly recorded -

2nd Cr) 3/8/08

Submitted with a draft as instructed

2nd Cr) 3/8/08

A revised draft submitted as

2nd Cr) 3/8/08

May be approved -

14.8.08

Issue

15.8.08

Shs await proof SN 7/8/08 10068 15.8.08

NOTE.—Contn sheet.

GPB—50,000—17-3-07

G. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

Police File No. 24 of 1908-09

Serial No.	
2	To The I. G. of Police, the I. G. of Prisons & the Dy Comr. Bangalore Dt. J627-2987 24.8.08. Notes with satisfaction the good work done by the City Police & directs that Siddaramappa may be given such promotion as ~~he~~ is thought fit.

NOTE.—Contn sheet.

GPB—50,000—17-3-07

III ½ 47/7

1259

1908-09. file no. 24 Sl. no. 1

FROM

The Inspector-General of
Police in Mysore.

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of H. H.
the Maharaja of Mysore,
Gen. & Rev. Depts.

Dated 25 July 1908.

Despatched

Received

General No. 507
No. 56

Enclosure No. 2d a file

Submitting a report on the Bangalore City murders & recommending the promotion of Mr. Nagarkar & Inspr Siddaramappa by way of reward in connection with the detection of these cases &c.

GPB—800—11-12-07

No. 507/56 Sn 2 d a file. Office of the Inspector-General of Police in Mysore,
Dated Bangalore, 25th July *1908.*

From

D. Devaraj Urs Esquire,
Inspector-General of Police in Mysore.

To

K. S. Chandrasekhara Aiyar Esq., B:A., B.L.,
Secretary to the Government of H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore,
General and Revenue Departments.

Sir,

I have the honour to state that on the perusal of the judgments in the several murder cases in the Civil and Military Station and Bangalore City, I thought it desirable to order a departmental enquiry in order to know how the City Police officers had conducted themselves in the investigation of the two cases that had occurred within the Bangalore City limits and I therefore requested Mr. Kumarasami Naik, Deputy Commissioner, to hold an enquiry into the matter. I herein enclose a copy of letter No. R. 113 dated 13/14th July 1908 from the Deputy Commissioner which not only gives the full particulars of the cases of murder of Lakki and Appaiya but also the part taken by the City Police in the investigation of the same. In the former case they did all ~~that~~ that was possible to be done. The dead body was not identified and that was a great disvantage in the way of proceeding further with the investigation. They had therefore for the time being to content themselves in getting her body photographed and sending copies to Civil and Military Station and other places for the purpose of identification.

In the case of Appaiya the City Police had their hands on the culprits. But the telegram purporting to have come from Appaiya from Madras and the boy's alleged

association with two prostitutes who at that very time are said to have disappeared from Bangalore threw the Police off the scent and caused them to stop further investigation. The fact that the City Police had on this occasion sent for Baboo and Sunderaj on suspicion materially helped in their unravelling of the mystery of so many murders when it came out that in the last of the series of the cases viz - attempt to commit murder - Sunder Raj one of the suspects was involved. Inspector Siddaramappa was prompt in at once working up the cases on that one clue.

The exhaustive report of the Deputy Commissioner clearly shows that the City Police have done their best in the early stage when the cases occurred and that latterly they are principally responsible in bringing to a successful conclusion not only the cases that were tried in the Civil and Military Station but also those of the Chief Court Sessions.

I am very pleased in this connection to bring to the notice of Government the detective skill, tact, and ability which Mr. Nagavkar and Inspector Siddaramappa brought to bear in the investigation of these cases. Inspector Siddaramappa bore the brunt of the investigation from the beginning to the end and carried out the whole business under the very able and experienced guidance of Mr. L. Krishna Rao and the signal assistance and hearty co-operation of Mr. Nagamkar, Chief Jailor, whose assistance, I may emphasise was especially invaluable.

I would strongly recommend to Government to reward Mr. Nagavkar and Inspector Siddaramappa by giving them promotions in recognition of their services. Our thanks are ~~also~~ due to Mr. L. Krishna Rao for his able and judicious guidance ~~in~~ the investigation.

The entire file of papers received from the Deputy Com-missioner with his report referred to above is herewith forward-ed for reference and favour of return when done with.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Inspector General of Police.

No. R. 113.

Office of the
Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore Dt.
Dated Bangalore, 13/14th July 08.

From

B. J. Kumarasami Naik Esq., B.A.,
Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District.

To

D. Devaraj Urs Esquire,
Inspector General of Police in Mysore,
Bangalore.

Sir;

You may perhaps have been aware from the General Diaries and Special Reports submitted to you from time to time by the Superintendent of Police, regarding the series of dastard -ly murders unprecedented in the History of Crime in this Province, committed in the City and the Civil and Military Station limits, Bangalore, by a gang of young men named Babu, Sunder Raju, Nallathambi and Sreenivasalu, the first three of whom were tried and sentenced to death, and the last to transporation for life.

The accompanying statement gives the particulars of the several murders committed by the members of the gang above referred to. It will be seen, therefrom, that two murders were committed in the City limits and the rest within those of the Civil and Military Station, that, of the former, the victim in one case (Lakki) was a resident of Jogipaliem, Civil and Military Station whose death was first reported to the City Police, the victim in the other (Appaiya) being a resident of the City whose disappearance as also that of the 3 persons (viz - Visvamurti and Krishna and Cheluvaraju Mudaliar, also residents of the City) murdered within the limits of the Civil and Military Station, was reported to the City Police for taking necessary action to trace their whereabouts. It is a satisfactory feature to note that

that no accusation was ever made by the accused persons against any of the officers of the City Police of either corruption or complicity in the crimes committed by them, though there was no love lost between one of the accused, viz, Babu and the City Police, since the latter had got the former convicted of theft, in January 1907 and sentenced to 3 months' rigorous imprisonment. Though, there has been no specific charge against the City Police yet on perusing the judgments in the several cases, it occurred to me that it was desirable in the interest of the public and the Police as well, to scrutinize the conduct of the Police - officers concerned regarding the part played by them in the investigation of the said cases especially in their earlier stages. I accordingly held a departmental enquiry with a view to see whether all that could have reasonably been expected of the Police had been done in connection with the case of the reported murder, and the disappearance of the four persons mentioned above. In the meanwhile your letter No. 7367/695 dated the 27th May '08 requesting me to hold a departmental enquiry and submit a report in the matter was also received. The enquiry was actually commenced on 5th June 1908 and concluded on 24th June 1908, the examination itself occupying 6 days. As a result of the enquiry, I am glad to be able to say, that, so far as these cases are concerned, the Police officers have deserved well of the trust reposed in them by Government. I shall now discuss the action taken by the Police in each case in the order in which it was reported to them.

The murder of Lakki was the first case committed in the City by the gang of murderers under reference and reported to the Police so far back as 24th April 1906. As has been shown in the recent enquiry and trial, the said Lakki was a resident of Jogipaliem in the Civil and Military Station, she was, during the absence of her son and brother-in-law, decoyed by some one of the gang into the Sreerama Medical Hall in Chamarajpet in the City, murdered there for the sake of jewels worn by her and thrown into the Mill tank. Mr. Nagavkar (now Chief Jailor) and

Siddaramappa were the City Chief Inspector and Fort Division Inspector respectively at the time. The statement, recorded by me, of Siddaramappa who handled the case from the beginning to the end under the direction of Mr. Nagavkar (extract from which is reproduced here below) gives the several steps taken by the Police to trace the author of the foul deed :-

" Mr. Bull of the Woollen and Cotton Mills wrote a letter
" to the Police as to the discovery of a dead body of a female
" in the tank adjacent to the mills which was forwarded to me
" by Mr. Nagavkar, Chief Inspector, for needful action on the
" 24th April 1906. I went to the spot forthwith and had a First
" information report sent to the City Magistrate. I was also
" present during the inquest held by the City Magistrate(on 24th
" April 1906). The body was almost naked and the throat was cut.
" It was put into a gunny bag after being doubled up. There were a
" razor and dealwood shavings in the bag. There was also a cone-
" shaped paper containing lint and cotton pellets. The Panchayet
" declared that it was a case of murder. The Medical Officer,
" Dr. Appiah, who was sent for by the City Magistrate and who ex-
" -amined the dead body also, pronounced that it was a case of mur-
" der. I sent for the mill coolies to see the dead body if they
" could identify the person, as none came forward to identify
" the dead body and declare who the person that was murdered.
" None of the coolies identified the body. I got the photo of
" the deceased taken at the Victoria Hospital. Copies of the
" same were freely circulated to Mysore, Civil and Military
" Station, Bangalore, Kolar Gold Fields, and Madras, by the Chief
" Inspector Mr. Nagavkar. The razor and the lint were sent to
" to the Chemical Examiner to find out whether there were any
"" any blood stains on them. The Chemical Examiner reported
" that no blood stains were found on the razor and the lint
" could not be tested by chemical analysis. My enquiries were
" first centered in the Woollen Mills as there were a lot of
" dealwood shavings there, upon the suspicion that some one con-
" nected with the Mills might have been concerned. One Merri who

" was supposed to have known the deceased was enquired with no
" satisfactory result. The investigation of the case was being
" conducted by the Chief Inspector. I was collecting all possi-
" ble information to find out a clue in the case. My attempts
" did not prove successful. When I had an occasion to go to
" Madras to arrest an accused person in connection with a forgery
" case on the 11th May 1906 I took a copy of the deceased's pho-
" to with me to show it to different persons there whether any
" body could identify her. I showed it to several Police offices
including Police Inspector Mr. Annamalay Pillai. I got no clue
" as to who the deceased person was. No body either identified
" the body or claimed the person. The case was kept on the un-
" detected file."

The above statement is not only corroborated by that of Mr. Nagavkar but also borne out by the Judicial Proceedings in the case - vide judgment in Chief Court Sessions case No. 39 of 1907-08.

From the above statement, it will be seen that the Police have taken all possible steps that could be taken in a case of this kind and further, it is noteworthy that an extra precaution was taken by the Police, in this case, in securing the photo of the dead body of the deceased with a view to copies of the same being widely circulated and thereby facilitate the find -ing of a clue as to the identity of the deceased and her murderers. One would however be tempted to raise the question as to how it was that the culprits were able to take the corpse unnoticed by the Police all the way from Sreerama Medical Hall to the mill tank. The answer to this is contained in the statement made by Sunder Raju before the Chief Jailor wherein he sates that the corpse which was put into a gunny bag was carried in a Soda water cart and taken to the mill tank in the early hours on a certain morning through the Mysore road when there was not much of traffic, one of them dragging the cart and the other two accompanying it - Sreenivasalu holding a cycle in his hand - with a view to be passed off as some travellers going to the railway

station. Anybody would have, under the circumstances, taken the word of the accused as true and passed them off as ordinary passengers going to the Railway Station

The next case is the disappearance of Appiah from his house in Ranasingpet, Bangalore City, on the 1st July 1906 reported to the Police on the 2nd idem. The circumstances connected with the disappearance and the action taken by the Police have been at sufficient length stated in the judgment in Chief Court Sessions case No. 38 of 1907-08, extract from which is reproduced here :-

" The case for the prosecution is that Appiah a youth of about 19 years of age, having lost both his parents when he was young, was brought up by and was living with his cousin Muniappa (Prosecution witness No. 4). He was hale and healthy until 7 A.M on the 1st July 1906 when he left his house. He did not return home and Muniappa becoming suspicious, began to make a search for the missing boy. He had heard that the boy was associating himself with the prisoners and believing that they would be able to give some information concerning him, he went to the mandi in Chamarajpet belonging to one Singaravelu Mudaliar which they were then occupying as tenants and made enquiries there, but he got no information. After making an unsuccessful search in other places, he made a report to the Police (Exhibit A). The Police also were unsuccessful in tracing the whereabouts of the missing boy and having learnt that two women belonging to the class of prostitutes, who had been staying with the prisoners in the said mandi for a few days had left the mundi at about the same time that Appiah disappeared, they thought it probable that Appiah had left Bangalore with these women for some other place. Nevertheless they got the prisoners arrested through the Police of the Civil and Military Station (the prisoners being residents of Ulsoor), and brought them to the City. While the accused were in their custody, one Venkatarangam, a friend of the deceased Appaiah, received a telegram (Exhibit B) from Madras purporting to be from Appiah. The telegram ran as follows :- "Fever better

better, starting Rangoon, inform home." The receipt of this telegram made Muniappa and the Police believe that Appiah was alive and the accused were thereupon released. A few days afterwards Muniappa still having his own doubts as to the genuineness of the telegram received by Venkatarangam, presented a second petition to the Police asking them to renew their enquiries concerning the missing boy, as at the time he disappeared he had some valuable jewels on his person. But the Police took no further action and the matter was dropped."

A perusal of the above extract and especially the last sentence thereof leaves an impression in the mind of the reader, that the Police did not take any further steps to trace the whereabouts of the disappeared man who as subsequent enquiry shows was murdered in the mandi in the new Taragapet referred to above on the very day he was missed, in spite of a written request made by Muniappa to renew their enquiries concerning the missing boy and this opinion seems also to be held in certain quarters. It is therefore necessary to examine carefully the conduct of the Police and the action taken by them in this case. As in the previous case, the Police officers who handled the above case are also Mr. Nagavkar and Siddaramappa. It will be seen from the Judicial Proceedings in the case and the statements recorded by me in the departmental enquiry, that as soon as the Police ascertained that the missing boy was associating with Babu and Sunder Raju, a requisition was sent to the Civil and Military Station Police authorities to send them to the City and while they were being questioned on the 12th July 1906 regarding the whereabouts of Appiah, the telegram referred to above was brought and shown to the Police by reason of which, the Police who were thrown off their scent, stopped further action in the matter, as with them, the relatives of Appiah also believed that the latter was alive and would return in course of time. Subsequently on the 14th idem, Muniappa having orally expressed his doubts regarding the genuineness of the telegram, Police Inspector Siddaramappa got an application written out in the name of the former to the

Superintendent of Telegraphs, Calcutta, to send the original telegram for inspection. The next day i.e., 15th July 1906, the said Muniappa put in a written petition to the City Chief Inspr: stating that he doubted the genuineness of the telegram since no letters confirming the telegram was received from Appiah, that he had reason to think that Babu and Sunder Raju must have sent him away to Madras and further that as there were jewels on his person he suspected danger to his life. In view of the requisition already made for the original telegram, this petition was simply entered in the Kengeri Gate Police Station House Diary on the 17th idem (see Exhibit F produced before me), as directed by the Chief Inspector. The Superintendent of Telegraphs having replied to Muniappa on the 20th idem that either the addressee or the sender of the message should apply for it (vide Exhibit E produced before me), the Police Inspector Siddaramappa again got the addressee Venkatarangaiya on or about the 25th or 26th July 1906 to apply for the original message. As has been admitted by Venkatarangiah and Chentimmia the original message was received and shown to them later on in the Chikpet Post Office and that it contained in English the signature of Appiah which looked like his, since to their knowledge, the latter used to sign his name in English, a fact, borne out by his initials in English in a kama subscription book(vide Exhibit M produced before me by Chentimmia). Though Muniappa, even after the receipt of the original message, was not prepared to place any reliance on it, he has admitted before me that he kept quiet, as he never for a moment apprehended that Appiah had been murdered and always thought that he must have gone somewhere and would come back. Further, as admitted by Muniappa himself, Inspector Mr. Nagavkar sent a telegram to the Police authorities at Madras enquiring whether there was any reference to show that Appiah had left Madras for Rangoon and that a reply was received to the effect that no list of departures to and arrivals from Rangoon was kept with them. Though it is to be regretted that through oversight, the above facts were omitted to be elicited in the Sessions Court, it

it is now clear that the Police did their level best to trace the whereabouts of the missing boy and it will be seen that there was hardly any clue to suspect either Babu or Sunder Raj, and watch their whereabouts since there was apparently no reason to suspect foul play on their part as they were then for all appear-ances passed off for decent folk.

In this case, however, the only unsatisfactory feature, if it could be so considered at all, is that the disappearance of the boy and the circumstances attending it were not brought to the notice of the Superintendent of Police by the Inspector through his General Diary and that the Head Station Diary containing the report of the disappearance of Appiah, extract submitted to the Office of the Superintendent of Police, was, it is stated by the Superintendent, filed by the Head Quarter Inspector without being brought to his special notice, probably for the reason, as explained by the Superintendent, that the circumstances of the case did not disclose any crime in which his special instructions were deemed necessary.

The disappearance of Visvamurti and Krishna is the next case reported to the Police on 22nd June 1907. The following sketch of the case is extracted from the judgment in Sessions case No. 3 of 1908 of the Sessions Judge, Civil and Military Station, Bangalore." Visvamurti was the son of Narasimha Chetty living in Doddapetta, Bangalore City. His age was 23. He is said to have been married. He was a friend of one Krishna alias Krishna Naidu whose age is given as 18 or 20. Both youths disappeared mysteriously on the 11th June 1907. 4 or 5 days afterwards the father of the first named received a telegram purporting to come from from his son telling him that he had gone to Madras with some friends and would return shortly. The telegram was sent from Sowcarpet, Madras, to the address of Golapalli Narasimha. As he failed to return, a report was made to the Police but no success attended the efforts that were made to trace him. At the time of the boy's disappearance, he is said to have been wearing jewellery to the value of some Rs 1,500/-. The

The next and the last case of disappearance is that of Cheluvaraja Mudaliar. As narrated in the judgment in Sessions case No. 4 of 1908 on the file of Sessions Judge, Civil and Military Station, Bangalore, the said Cheluvaraja Mudaliar was the son of one Munisamy Mudaliar, an acting Goods Inspector on the Southern Mahratta Railway, living at Cottonpetta, Bangalore City. The boy's age was 17 or 18 and he was attending School. He was seen by his parents for the last time on 9th October 1907. His disappearance was reported both to the Kengeri Gate and Kalaspalyam Police Stations on the 10th October 1907 and the report was entered in the Police Crime Diary on the same day. Munisami Mudaliar sent a telegram to his brother at Mysore and a reply is stated to have been received intimating that the boy had not gone there. On the 14th October a telegram was received addressed from Robertsonpet to the boy's father saying that he had gone off to Madras.

Mahomed Jaffer Mekri (now Bangalore Taluk Police Inspector) was the Chief Inspector of the Bangalore City at the time of the reported disappearance of the boys in the last mentioned cases and the steps taken by him for discovering the whereabouts of the missing boys are, to quote the words from the Inspector's statement recorded by me, as follows:-

" Visvamurti's disappearance was reported on the 22nd June 1907 which was noted in the diary of the Central Station (vide Exhibit G). Immediately on the receipt of the said information, descriptive rolls were circulated and all the beat constables in the City were warned to watch and find out the whereabouts of the missing person. The Division Inspector Hanumanta Rao was also directed to be on the look out and investigate the matter. The enquiry was continued till the 26th September 1907 when on information being received from Visvamurti's father - Narasimha Chetty, that the boy was last seen in Bombay with [illegible] Krishna, descriptive rolls were prepared and the same with copies of photos of Visvamurti were freely circulated to all the neighbouring Districts and important centres in India. And a notice of hue and cry offering a reward of Rs. 100/- to any one furnishing

information leading to the discovery of the boy, was also published in the Mysore Police Gazette for October 1907 - Page 93 - Part II.

As regards the disappearance of Cheluvaraj reported to the Police, it will be seen from the statements of the Inspector and the Superintendent of Police, that descriptive rolls of the missing boy were got prepared and circulated in the City and also Cantonment. It would appear to have also been ascertained from the relatives of the missing boy that he had once before left the house in the same fashion and returned after some days' absence. As stated by the Superintendent of Police, in all cases of disappearance, it is the established practice to circulate the descriptive rolls and to make such enquiry as might lead to the whereabouts of the missing persons. In the majority of instances the disappearing persons return after a temporary absence and no further notice is taken of the matter as some domestic reason or other will be found to underlie such disappearances. And it is stated that no departure was made from the usual procedure in the above 2 cases (Visvamurti and Cheluvaraj) as no special grounds were made out to distinguish them from other cases.

Thus no clue was discovered regarding the authors of the murder of Lakki and the whereabouts of Appiah, Visvamurti and Krishna, and Cheluvaraja Mudaliar above referred to and the cases remained undetected on the Police file till January 1908, when the first suspicious circumstance in regard to these disappearances was brought to light on the occurrence of an attempted murder in the Civil and Military Station on the 7th idem. In this case one Munisami a boy of about 22 years of age residing in Ranasingpet, Bangalore City, was enticed away by his neighbour Munivenkata to go to Ulsoor on the pretext of getting him a cycle and with the aid of his friends Nallathambi and Sunder Raj made an attempt on his life for the sake of jewels worn on his person by first making him drink liquor and then administering chloroform and when he became unconscious, they bagen to cut his throat. But as fortune would have it, the boy had not

become quite unconscious, the chloroform not having had its full effect and he seized the blade of the knife which was used for murdering him and in the struggle he received some cuts. Just at this moment, there was some noise outside in the street and the culprits being alarmed, let go their intended victim and decamped. They were, however arrested ; Nallathambi on the 7th January '08 by the Civil and Military Station Police within their limits, Munivenkata and Sunder Raju on the 8th and 12th idem respectively, by the City Police on the requisition of the Cantonment Police. When Inspector Siddaramappa learnt the circumstances of the above case from the relatives of Munisami and also, that Nallathambi had disclosed to the Police that they (accused) had used chloroform to their victim and had intended to bury the dead boy in a pit in that very house, if their attempt had succeeded. He (Siddaramappa) was shrewd enough to suspect that a similar plight might have overtaken the other persons who had disappeared from the City, particularly Appiah, as he was also a person that had disappeared from Ranasingpet and in which connection Sunder Raju's name had been mentioned to him at the time. The Inspector at once communicated the facts of the case of attempted murder and his own suspicions regarding the other cases to the Superintendent of Police in his D.O. letter of the 13th January 1907 (vide Exhibit A produced before me). In pursuance of the instructions given by the Superintendent of Police, Inspector Siddaramappa continued his enquiry and collected information which went to strengthen his suspicion against Babu and Sunder Raju as the authors of the murder of Appiah and he further ascertained that Mr. Nagavkar, Chief Inspector of the Central Jail was in possession of some information regarding the missing youths of the City given to him by one of the accused who had been remanded to the Jail, and he accordingly informed the same to the Superintendent of Police in his letter dated the 18th January 1908 (vide Exhibit B produced before me). In his further enquiry, as will be seen from Siddaramappa's letter dated the 22nd January 1908 to the Superintendent of Police, he ascertained from Sunder Raju's

concubine Kempi that Visvamurti whose photo was shown to her was once brought by Babu, Nallathambi and Sunder Raju to her house at Ulsoor some 7 months ago, that some days after, there was a dispute among them regarding the division of some property and that she did not see the boy again. Siddaramappa accordingly made arrangements to watch the movements of Kempi and Babu who was not implicated in the attempted murder case, having been ill at the time and was consequently not arrested. The Inspector having learnt that Seenu alias Sreenivasulu, son of Dr. Lakshmanaswami , Retired Civil Surgeon, was associating with Babu, Sunder Raju and Nallathambi, cultivated friendship with him and ascertained from him that Sunder Raju had got two pieces of gold links melted by one Mariachari a goldsmith in Chamarajpet. The latter, on being questioned, not only admitted the fact, but also informed him that Seenu told him the previous day that himself, Sunder Raju Babu and Kempi, had gone to Madras about 8 months ago, that there Sunder Raju and Babu got pieces of gold "Golsu" melted and prepared a pair of kapus which they sold for Rs 300/- and odd. Both.Seenu and Kempi having corroborated the above, Inspector Siddaramappa interviewed the Chief Jailor Mr. Nagavkar and explained to him the whole situation and as advised by him, Siddaramappa confronted Mariacahri with Sunder Raju in the Jail about the melting of gold and the latter while admitting the fact stated he got the gold from his sister about 10 months ago which fact was ascertained to be false, as she died some years back.

The Chief Jailor Mr. Nagavkar who was the Chief Inspector of the Bangalore City at the time of the reported murder of Lakki and the disappearance of Appiah and others, also took interest in the matter and helped Siddaramappa in collecting inforamtion . In their enquiry on the 28th January 1908, Sunder Raju disclosed that on a certain night more than a year and a half ago, Babu had enticed away Lakki from Ulsoor to the Medical shop kept by Seenu, in Chamarajpet, that she was rendered unconscious by liquor and chloroform being administered to her, and

in that state her throat was cut by himself, Seenu and Babu with a razor that was in the shop and how after they removed the jewels on her body, put the corpse in a bag, stuffed with deal-wood shavings, carried it in a Soda water cart that belonged to Seenu and threw it into the Mill tank. Siddaramappa accordingly set forth the above information in a special consolidated report submitted by him to the Superintendent of Police on the 29th January 1908 (vide Exhibit D produced before me). On this Babu and Seenu were both arrested in the early morning of the 1st February 1908. The statement of Sunder Raju disclosing facts regarding the murder of Lakki was also recorded by the Chief Jailor on the 1st February 1908. Md. Jaffer Mekri, City Chief Inspector and Fort Division Inspector Siddaramappa then worked up the case, seized the cart &c., and placed the accused with a charge sheet before the City Magistrate who committed them to the Chief Court Sessions where on the 16th May 1908, accused 14 Sreenivasalu was convicted of the offences of murder and robbery and sentenced to transporation for life for the former offence and 10 years' rigorous imprisonment for the latter, the charge against the other two accused Babu and Sunder Raju who pleaded guilty to the charge having been allowed to be withdrawn under Section 494 Criminal Procedure Code and made witnesses for the Prosecution.

Both the accused Sunder Raju and Nallathambi having volunteered to make statements before the Chief Jailor disclosing facts connected with the murder of Appiah, Visvamurti and Krishna and Cheluvaray Mudaliar, the same was recorded by him on different dates between the 30th January and 10th February 1908 and forwarded the statements to the Superintendent of Police, Mr. L. Krishna Rao. The latter lost no time in placing himself in communication with Mr. Hannyngton, Superintendent of Police, Civil and Military Station, to whom copies of statements of the accused persons recorded by the Jailor were forwarded and taking steps to act on the information before him. On the information furnished by Sunder Raju and Nallathambi before the Chief Jailor

that Appiah had been murdered by poison and chloroform and then buried in the backyard of the mandi in Chamarajpet, the four accused persons- Babu, Sunder Raju, Sreenivasalu and Nallathambi were taken on the 4th February 1908 to the mandi where in presence of the City Magistrate, the Superintendent of Police and the panchayetdars, Sunder Raju and Nallathambi pointed out the place where Appiah's body had been buried after the murder. The dead body was exhumed and inquest proceedings were held. The confessional statements of accused persons were got recorded before the Magistrates and after collecting independent corroborative evidence the Police placed ythe accused Babu and Sunder Raju before the City Magistrate who committed them to the Chief Court Sessions where they were tried and sentenced to death on the 14th ~~May~~ May 1908 (vide Judgment in Sessions case No. 38 of 1907-08).

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Two days after the body of Appiah was unearthed by the City Police, the Civil and Military Station Police authorities on the 6th February 1908 took the accused persons to the several places where they stated they had murdered and buried Visvamurti and Krishna, Cheluvaraya Mudaliar and others and the skeletons of the murdered persons were exhumed in the several places pointed out by the culprits. In both the cases of the murder of Visvamurti and Krishna and of Cheluvaraya Mudaliar, all the accused persons were after due enquiry and trial convicted of the offences of murder and robbery under sections 302 and 292 - Indian Penal Code - and sentenced to death (vide judgments in Sessions cases Nos. 3 & 4 of 1908 on the file of the Sessions Judge, Civil and Military Station, Bangalore).

It will be seen from the judgments in the several cases that the method adopted by these accused persons in committing the several murders was to entice away on some pretext or other, young persons wearing jewels to a house rented or arranged for the purpose, to give them eatables and drinks mixed with poison and then administer chloroform to their victims and when the

latter lost all consciousness, to cut their throat, strip off their jewels and then bury them in pits prepared in the very houses in which they were entertained, though in the case of Lakki, her body was thrown into the tank as Sreenivasalu is stated to have objected to the corpse being buried in the shop. The above novel method adopted by the members of this gang who formed themselves into a fraternity and observed strict secrecy naturally escaped the attention of the Police for a long time as there was absolutely no clue for them to proceed. But when once, a clue was found after the Ulsoor attempted murder case was reported, they were the first to unearth the whole mystery regarding the disappearance of the several youths from the City. Mr. Nagavkar whose previous service in the Police Department and knowledge of the disappearance of the youths stood him in good stead, was not slow to elicit correct information from the accused persons while in Jail and record them then and there. The allegation of some of the accused that they disclosed information regarding the murders under a promise held out by Mr. Nagavkar that they would be taken as approvers has been rightly rejected by the Judge. The fact being, as admitted by Mr. Nagavkar, that when the accused prayed for being made approvers, he told them that they may make the request before the Magistrate.

To sum up my opinion in the matter, I beg to state that the City Police have done their duty conscientiously and to the best of their intelligence and ability and no charge of incompetency or blameworthy conduct can reasonably be imputed to them in the matter of either the prevention or the detection of the crimes under reference.

In this connection, I think it must be acknowledged that with the advancement of the times, the work thrown upon the existing staff of the Police in the City is ever increasing and thereby rendering them unable to cope with the ever changing methods by criminal gangs, and that time has matured for the early organization of an entirely independent Intelligence.

Department, with full compliment of officers and men for special detective work.

The statements of the several Police officers and others recorded by me and also other papers connected with the enquiry as detailed in the pherist, are herewith sent for kind reference and return when no longer required.

Sent in a separate parcel.

I have &c

(Signed) B. J. Kumarasami Naik.

Deputy Commissioner,

Bangalore District.

" C O P Y "

17

Inspector General of Police.

Particulars of Cases of murders committed in the

No:	Name of the murdered person	Date on which the person was murdered or whose disappearance was reported to the Police.	To what Station
1	Lakki	Murdered on 22. 4. 1906 night in the City.	To Kengeri Gate Po Bangalore City on 2
2	Appiah	Murdered on or about 15th July 06 in the City	Disappearance re Gate Police Station 23 July 1906.
3	Govinda Chari	Disappeared from Ulsoor, C&M Station on 16. 9. 06.	To Ulsoor Police on 27. 9. 06.
4	Gopala Krishnaswami	Disappeared on 16. 10. 06	To Ulsoor Police on 16. 10. 06.
5	Viswanurti and Krishna	Disappearance reported on 22. 6. 07.	To Central P Bangalore
6	Chelvaraj Modaliar	Disappeared from the City on 9. 10. 07	To Kengeri Gat Bangalore city.
7	Munisami	Enticed away from the City on 7. 1. 08.	To Ulsoor S Station on 7.

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3	Govinda Chari	Disappeared from Nilson, C&M Station on 16. 9. 06.	To Nilson Police S. on 27. 9. 06.
4	Gopala Krishna Swami	Disappeared on 16. 10. 06	To Nilson Police St on 16. 10. 06.
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	Munisami	Enticed away from the City on 7. 1. 08.	To Nilson Station Station on 7. 1. 08

: City and Civil and Military Station, Bangalore.

Reported.	Names of the Accused.	Name of Officer who investigated the Case.
ice Station, .. 4. 06	1. Sunder Raj 2. Babu 3. Sreenivasalu.	Mr: Nagarkar and Siddaramappa.
rted to Kengeri ngalore City on	1. Sunder Raj 2. Babu.	Messrs Siddaramappa and Nagarkar.
tion, C&M. Station	1. Nallathambi 2. Sunder Raj 3. Babu.	. . . . . .
tion, C&M. Station	1. Nallathambi 2. Sunder Raj 3. Babu	- - -
e Station, :	1. Nallathambi 2. Sunder Raj 3. Babu	Inspector Mr Mookeri and Siddaramappa
ice Station, 9.11.07	1. Nallathambi 2. Sunder Raj 3. Babu	Inspectors Mr. Mookeri, and Hanumanthappa and. Sergeant Narain Singh
Police, C&M	1. Nallathambi 2. Sunder Raj 3. Babu 4. Muniveenkata.	

G.R.S. 28]

police **File No.** 24-08

Serial No. 2

Diary No. of letter replied to 7259

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

( )

, the 190

Date of issue

Signed by

(Print Deputy Commissioner's letter in extenso)

READ.—

Letter No dd/ 507/56 dated the 25th July 08 from the D.G. of Police in Mysore submitting a report on a departmental Enquiry held by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore Dt

~~ORDER THEREON.—NO.~~

into the conduct of the Bangalore City Police in connection with the series of murders committed in the City of Bangalore & C & M Station

Order thereon — No.

over

J627-29

police 24-08-2 Dy Sec to Govt

SUBJECT

MGCPB—20,000—24-2-05

In connection with the murders which were brought to light in Bangalore in January last, it was ~~thought~~ deemed necessary / desirable in the interests of the public as well as those of the Police Dept to hold a departmental enquiry into the Conduct of the City Police Officers concerned in the investigation of these cases and to scrutinise & place on record the steps towards ~~methods of~~ detection ~~employed~~ taken by them in the course of their investigation. The Dy Commissioner, Bangalore Dt held an enquiry & has submitted an elaborate report. He is of opinion that the City Police have done their duty conscientiously and to the best of their intelligence and ability and that no charge of incompetency or

G.R.S.-27]

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIATE.

(Continuation Sheet draft form.)

blameworthy conduct can reasonably be ~~imputed~~ brought against them. The I.G. of Police, in forwarding the report, agrees that the City Police did their best in the early stages when the cases occurred & that latterly, they were ~~principally responsible for~~ chiefly instrumental in bringing the cases to a successful conclusion.

2. Govt., ~~has~~ after perusing the records, agree with the I.G. of Police that the Bangalore City Police took all reasonable steps in tracing out the crimes reported to them ~~and that their conduct was commendable~~. Two of the murders were committed ~~by the gang~~ within the limits of the City. The papers show that, in both the cases, the original enquiries ~~by the City Police~~ ~~by the Police~~ although ~~although~~ it did not result ~~in detection~~ ~~on account of the extreme ingenuity of the gang~~, left nothing to be desired. ~~In~~ The first case that was reported to the City Police ~~was~~ the murder of one Lakki ~~incident~~

by the notorious gang all of whom have been brought to justice.

She was a resident of the

and although the City Police adopted all possible measures to get the corpse identified and sent copies of her photograph circulated far & wide no identification was obtained & they were handicapped within further investigation by getting no clue as to the identity of the murdered woman

At C.I.D. Station they were handicapped by the fact that no identification of the murdered woman was forthcoming, though copies of her photograph had been circulated in Bangalore & other places. It is noteworthy that in the latter case of the murder of Appiah, the City Police had the real culprits arrested but they let them go, having been put off the scent by a forged telegram purporting to come from the murdered man. Even in regard to this the Police were handicapped until they sent for the original telegram & satisfied themselves as to its authenticity. It will thus be seen that the Police investigated the case with skill and thoroughness but that they were baffled for the time being, on account of the circumstances above mentioned. When suspicion was first thrown on the Gaekwar by the case of

G.R.S. 27]

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(Continuation Sheet draft form.)

attempted murder in the Cantonment, the City Police at once connected them with the two murders committed in the City and worked up the available clues successfully with the result that a complete confession of their participation in the murders was made by the murderers

3. It may be also be mentioned that no accusation of connivance in the crime was made by the murderers against the City Police. This is important because it was at their instance that Babu, one of the gang, has been convicted of theft and sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment. Under the circumstances the murderers would not have hesitated to bring such charges agst the Police, had there been the slightest ground for them

It may [illegible] Clerk Stage of the Criminal Cases of the Gang

4. Govt are pleased to note the testimony ~~of the~~ ~~D.G. of Police & the Inspector~~ ~~General of Forests & Mr. L. Krishna~~ heard, Rao the Supt of Police, Bangalore Dt, and ~~to~~ the detective skill and activity of Mr. Nagavkar the Chief Jailor, Bangalore Central Jail and Inspector Siddaramappa displayed in the ~~detection~~ of these cases. With regard to ~~his~~ recommendation in regard to rewarding the two latter officers, the D.G. of Police is requested to give such promotion to Inspector Siddaramappa as is merited he thinks fit. Orders will be separately issued regarding Mr Nagavkar.

received from

the services of

Govt

4/8/08

for Sec

4/8/08

To The Supt of Police Bangalore

Dy Secy

Ed W 20/8/08